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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Filing under 35 U.S.C. § 371  
Corresponding to International  
Application No.: PCT/EP00/06792

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International Filing Date: June 27, 2000

For: TIMED DUAL RELEASE DOSAGE FORMS  
COMPRISING A SHORT ACTING HYPNOTIC  
OR A SALT THEREOF

Box PCT  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Attn: EO/US  
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**In the Claims:**

Please amend claims 1-14, 16, 19-23, and 26, cancel claims 15, 17, 18, 24, and 25, and add new claims 27-75 as follows before calculating the filing fee for the above-identified application.

Please amend claims 1-14, 16, 19-23, and 26 to read as follows:

~~1. (Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a short acting hypnotic or a salt thereof adapted to release the short acting hypnotic over a predetermined time period, according to an *in vitro* profile of dissolution, comprising two release pulses, the first being immediate and the second being delayed by a fixed time after the administration.~~

~~2. (Amended) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 1, wherein the first pulse has a maximum duration of 30 minutes.~~

**CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.10**

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